STATE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER



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To: California IT Council Members

Dear Friends,

I am so pleased you have accepted my invitation to join the Information Technology Council as an inaugural member. We are at a critical time in the State's history – a time when we can anticipate the need to make quantum leaps forward in state operations and services. Now, more than ever, we need to come together as the community of State information technology leaders to prepare ourselves and our departments for change.

As you know, Governor Schwarzenegger has set an ambitious reform agenda for State government to improve its responsiveness, reduce costs, increase productivity and improve services. The California Performance Review ("CPR") is going to be the critical change agent in this process. One of our immediate roles will be to discuss ideas that should be referred to the CPR. We also must prepare ourselves to implement those recommendations coming out of the CPR that require technology change. I'm sure each of you appreciates the likelihood that information technology will be a critical facilitator for many of those reforms.

I know how difficult it is to set aside 3 or more hours for meetings; however, I want to impress upon you the importance of the opportunity to plan the future of the State's information technology needs and solutions.

I look forward to seeing you on March 5th for the first Council meeting at the HHSDC Training Center from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. The Council Charter and meeting agenda will be sent to you before that meeting.

Sincerely,

J. Clark Kelso

Cc: IT Council members